

CHAPTER 35 INTRODUCTION TO FAR PART 91 RELATED TASKS

1. FAR PART 91 AUTHORITY. The regulations of FAR Part 91, Subpart C prescribe the maintenance requirements for all U.S.-registered civil aircraft operating within and/or outside the United States.

3. MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY. Technological advancements in general aviation-type aircraft dictate the need for maintenance requirements. Therefore, all aircraft must be maintained in a condition for safe operation and meet their respective type designs. It is essential that the continued airworthiness of aircraft be consistent with the terms of the original airworthiness certificate.

A. FAR § 91.403 places the responsibility for maintaining the aircraft in an airworthy condition on the owner/operator. The actual maintenance of the aircraft must be performed or supervised by certificated persons.

B. The owner/operator must have the aircraft inspected as prescribed in FAR §§ 91.409, 91.411, and 91.413. Between these required inspections, discrepancies must be repaired as prescribed in FAR Part 43.

C. *Repainting Aircraft.* FAR Part 43, Appendix A, paragraph (c)(9) defines preventive maintenance actions. All maintenance must be accomplished in accordance with the performance standards of Section 43.13 and must conform to the other applicable sections of Part 43.

(1) FAR § 43.15(a)(1) states that any person performing an inspection required by FAR Part 91 shall perform the inspection so as to determine whether the aircraft under inspection, or portions thereof, meets all applicable airworthiness requirements. This includes any maintenance items performed during the repainting of an aircraft.

(2) During routine surveillance activities, Aviation Safety Inspectors (ASIs) should determine the airworthiness status of aircraft which appear to have been painted recently by verifying that properly certificated facilities/persons performed the maintenance in accordance with the manufacturer's manuals and that the maintenance was documented in the aircraft's records.

(3) FAR § 91.407 states that no person may operate any aircraft that has undergone maintenance, preventive maintenance, rebuilding, or alteration unless it has been approved for return to service by a person authorized under FAR §§ 43.9 or 43.11, as applicable.

5. TYPES OF INSPECTION PROGRAMS. Several options for inspection programs are available in FAR Part 91, Subpart C. The inspection program an operator uses is dictated by the size of the aircraft, the type of propulsion, and the type of operation.

